

House Resolution 1080

By: Representative Abdul-Salaam of the 74th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing Dr. Patricia J. Lewis as a Notable Woman of Achievement in observance of
2 Women's History Month; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Patricia J. Lewis is Superintendent and Founder of Clayton County's first
4 charter school, Lewis Academy of Excellence, a college preparatory public academy located
5 in Riverdale, Georgia; and

6 WHEREAS, the daughter of a preacher, Dr. Lewis's devotion to assisting and uplifting the
7 lives others was instilled in her at an early age by her parents, the late William and Fannie
8 Clark; and

9 WHEREAS, a native of Peoria, Illinois, Dr. Lewis earned a bachelor's degree in elementary
10 education from Illinois State University, a master's degree in psychological foundations and
11 early childhood education from California State University, and a doctoral degree in
12 educational leadership and administration from Western Michigan University and Pacific
13 Western University; and

14 WHEREAS, she moved to the Atlanta area in 1989 and since then she has earned an
15 eye-catching reputation for the vital role that she has played in the teaching profession and
16 her deep personal commitment to the education of the students of Georgia; and

17 WHEREAS, since the opening of Lewis Academy of Excellence in 2005, the institution has
18 doubled its enrollment from 247 to 500 students and has achieved AYP status each year since
19 its doors opened; and

20 WHEREAS, in 2007, Dr. Lewis purchased the former Woodward Academy campus with
21 27.75 acres of land and six buildings to serve as the campus for Lewis Academy of
22 Excellence; and

23 WHEREAS, the campus recently added a brand new playground through the collaborative
24 efforts of KABOOM, parents, and community leaders; and

25 WHEREAS, her talent as an educator in challenging and molding the future leaders of this
26 nation has been recognized with numerous accolades and honors, including a 2001
27 Outstanding Principal Award from Victory Charter School, induction into the National
28 Teacher Hall of Fame in 1998, a Teacher of the Year Award in 1995, an Outstanding Woman
29 of America Award from the National Jaycees, and a National Sojourner Truth Award from
30 the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women; and

31 WHEREAS, as Women's History Month, March, 2009, is set aside to celebrate and honor
32 those women who have contributed their time and talents to the betterment of this state and
33 this nation, it is only fitting and proper that Dr. Lewis be recognized on this highly significant
34 occasion.

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
36 the members of this body commend Dr. Patricia J. Lewis for the positive influence she has
37 had upon the lives and futures of countless young people in this state and recognize her as
38 a Notable Woman of Achievement in observance of Women's History Month.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
40 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Dr. Patricia J. Lewis.